

# *Pennsylvania Angus Association*

*Celebrating over 80 Years as an Association  
Spring 2025 Newsletter*

## 2025 PA ANGUS ASSOCIATION

### OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

#### President

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#### Vice-President

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#### Treasurer

Brad Bishard  
1787 Seven Valleys Road  
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717-792-9268

#### Directors

#### **Terms ending 2024:**

Dale Rains  
Wendall Landis  
Butch Otto  
Scott Brown

#### **Term ending 2025:**

Cheryl Fairbairn

#### **Terms ending 2026:**

Will Nichols  
Gene Trowbridge  
Denton Grim

## ***Across The President's Desk***

Happy Spring Fellow Angus Breeders,

We have had a relatively dry fall and winter here in southeast PA. But, that doesn't seem to stop the mud. If you have it, you know the challenges it brings. I'm looking forward to longer days, warmer temps and green grass. I'm sure you are too.

For some, calving season is just about over and others are just starting. In both case I wish you a great and healthy calf crop. I've heard from several breeders that coccidiosis is a little more common this year. The bad cases have resulted in death in 24-36 hours after first sign of bloody stools. This is most common in calves 30-60 days of age and during frequent and rapid temperature and moisture changes. Talk to your vet and get a plan in place before it strikes and you lose calves.

Its Bull season! Both AI and natural service programs should be evaluating this years and last year's calf crop, for calving ease, growth records and other parameters that are important to your operation. And then determine if any changes in your bull lineup are needed. PA breeders have some exceptional Angus bulls. On the farm, or at the Performance tested sale you can find some of the best-bred bulls in the country. And, you can get a \$1500 rebate from the Center of Beef Excellence for purchases of PA bred bulls. You will find all the details in this newsletter. I plan to attend the PA Performance Bull Test sale on March 28 at noon, and look forward to seeing many of you there.

As seedstock producers it is our privilege and responsibility to provide some of the highest quality Angus cattle, for the production of safe, delicious and nutrient dense beef for our customers.

And, to do it while being amazing stewards of the land. Thank you for the part that you play in this business and lifestyle.

God bless you and your families this spring,  
Dennis Byrne, PA Angus President



# Pennsylvania Junior Angus Association Junior Corner

## 2025 Officer Team PA Junior Angus Association

### President

Madison Bowen

### Vice-President

Conner Grim

### Secretary

Caden Bowen

### Treasurer

Lindsey Grim

### News Reporter

Kinleigh Grim

### Directors

#### **2nd Term:**

Lindsey Grim

Raven Eisenhower

Gabriele Jacobs

Chance Rains

#### **1st Term:**

Gaige Wingert

Kolton Grim

George Webster

Lee Sweitzer

### Advisors

Kristine Butz

Kyle Grim

Kayla Horting

Chad Cash

Kendall Henning

Pierron Reasner

## Direct From Your News Reporter's Desk

Dear Pennsylvania Angus Juniors,

Welcome spring and hello to the warm, refreshing, sunny weather! The ice cold has finally gone away and flowers are blooming, grass is growing, and our breeding season is well under way!

The PA Angus Juniors had several Angus families that traveled to Virginia for a very fun weekend at MAJAC. Congratulations to the following juniors on your successful show in Harrisonburg.

- Hayden Weaver had the Champion Intermediate bull with WSC Stellar 2424
- Gaige Wingert had the Reserve Champion Senior Yearling heifer with Beaver Creek Scaara 3109
- Kolton Grim showed the Reserve Champion Intermediate Bred & Owned heifer with Beaver Creek Scaara 4135
- Kinleigh Grim won Champion Junior Showman
- Kolton Grim won Reserve Champion Intermediate Showman

We are excited for the upcoming shows including Atlantic National and our Pennsylvania Angus Breeder Show in Huntington, PA. We hope to see everybody at our next meeting after the Junior Show in Huntington and at the Annual Banquet. Best wishes for the rest of your breeding season and other spring activities!

Sincerely,

Kinleigh Grim, PJAA News Reporter

## 2025 Pennsylvania Young Cattlemen's Beef Award

The Young Cattlemen's Beef Award was a new Award started in 2024. This award was established through a very generous anonymous donation. The Award will be awarded annually to young producer(s) looking to make improvements to their operation. Applicants can either have a registered or commercial cattle operation in Pennsylvania.

The successful applicant will be someone with a small or large beef herd of any breed or cross, or is involved in some type of operation that furthers the beef industry in PA. This can include a feedlot, meat marketing operation of any shape or size, semen sales company, etc. You may only win this award once.

Please look for more information on the next application cycle this spring and in the next newsletter.

Please sign up for the band app as this is our new route of communication for juniors and their parents. The QR code is:



# Pennsylvania Junior Angus Association

## Outstanding Boy and Girl Award Application

The Pennsylvania Junior Angus Association established the Outstanding Junior Boy and Girl Awards to recognize and encourage juniors who strive for excellence. It emphasizes the need for leadership and involvement not only within the PJAA but in other activities as well. Any member of the Pennsylvania Junior Angus Association is eligible to apply. However, once a junior has received this award, he/she may not apply again.

The applications should be postmarked no later than May 1, 2025 and should be sent to Chad Cash at 983 Wetherburn Drive, York, PA 17404. They can also be emailed to him at chad-cash2@comcast.net. Please be sure you get a reply that your application has been received. If not, please contact Chad.

### Part One: Activities

This part of the application should be in the form of an outline and should include a culmination of your years of involvement beginning at age nine in the following activities (limit to three pages).

- A. Pennsylvania Junior Angus Association Involvement (20 pts.)
- 8. Other Agricultural Activities (4-B, Judging, FFA etc.) (20 pts.)
- C. School (20 pts.)
- D. Community (20 pts.)

### Part Two: Open-Ended Question

On an additional sheet of paper, please write a brief summary answering the following question (limit to one page). (20 pts.)

How has your involvement in the Pennsylvania Junior Angus Association benefited you?

## THE NOTTINGHAM COWBOY

One of my greatest concerns when I go to a new client's farm is SAFETY! Every farm and facility is different. For example; one client wanted his bull fertility tested. He was a mean and rank, Jersey bull. The owner thought the professional should lasso the bull, tie him to a post in the barn and then use the electro ejaculator to collect the semen. All, while the owner was away at work. I'd say that was an extremely dangerous plan. I'm not going to do that; you shouldn't do that and neither should your kids. Nobody should.

I had another client that always tagged his calves as soon as they hit the ground. Some cows are a little more protective than others. Twice, a cow put him in the hospital. Again, another very dangerous situation, that might resolve itself in 12-48 hours.

I have a few rules:

1. Everyone that has cattle should have a chute and catch pen.
2. They should know how to use it.
3. Take time to practice with it and train your cattle to the system, before the emergency. Always, work calmly.
4. Whenever possible have someone with you, even if the only thing they can do is call 911.
5. Be sure gates and fencing are in good repair.
6. Whenever you are working cattle have a gate between you and them.
7. Work in small bunches, especially when crowding.
8. Be aware of those around you and make sure they are in a safe place.
9. Prices are high, there is no excuse to keep mean or aggressive bulls or cows. Just one injury could cost thousands and a single death cannot be measured by any dollar value.
10. If you feel your system needs a professional look, call an experienced neighbor, extension agent, consultant or cattle handling salesperson, for some good advice.

If there is ever a time to evaluate your system and technique for SAFETY!  
IT IS NOW!

By Dennis Byrne  
Jdbdab1952@gmail.com

## Angus Awards

The Pennsylvania Angus Association will present the annual Angus awards at the next annual meeting on June 20th at the Huntingdon County Fairgrounds. Please consider nominating someone (or family) that would be a great candidate for one of the following awards. Nominations should be submitted to Deric Horting. The following is a brief description of each award.

### Seedstock Producer of the Year:

An individual (family) that concentrates on raising breeding animals with optimum genetics for the breed and the beef cattle market on a whole. This individual will market bulls, replacement females, semen and embryos to other seedstock producers or to cow-calf producers that would fit their requirements.

### Promoter of the Year:

An individual who helps to promote the state association and the Angus Breed through different state and local functions throughout the year.

### Stewardship Award:

An individual who has the best interest in protecting the land and utilizing it for the best ability of the cattle. This individual is not only concerned about improving the environment but also improving the cattle management within their farm or ranch.

Please contact Deric Horting with questions and nominations, 717-503-5408, [deric.horting@yahoo.com](mailto:deric.horting@yahoo.com). The deadline for nominations is May 1st.

# 2025 PA Angus Breeders Show

The 2025 PA Angus Breeders Show will be held at the Huntingdon County Fairgrounds on June 19 - 21, 2025 with the Annual Meeting being held on Friday, June 20th in conjunction with the Breeders Show. More information on the Show and Annual Meeting will be available in the Summer newsletter that will come out the beginning of May.

The Breeders Show Committee anticipates having the show available on the Showman App starting April 18th. They are also looking for donations to help with show expenses. Anyone wishing to make a donation can either send a check to the Pa Angus treasurer or through the Showman app. Also, like in the past, they are also looking for someone to be the water sponsor. Anyone wishing to be the water sponsor is welcome to Contact Jen Macomber at 484-577-1343 or Allison Schmuck at 814-289-1265.

The Committee was able to get block rates with the Comfort Inn and Fairfield Inn. The following is the hotel information for this year:

Comfort Inn: 814 - 693-5075

Rooms are \$109/night

Fairfield Inn: 814-643-3672

Rooms are \$124/night

## Pennsylvania Bull Credit Program

The Pennsylvania Center for Beef Excellence is once again offering the Bull Credit Program. The purpose of the program is to assist Pennsylvania beef producers in purchasing quality bulls that will enhance the value of feeder steers going to market, as well as replacement heifers added back to their herd.

The Bull Credit Program will reimburse Pennsylvania producers \$1,500 towards the purchase of a qualifying bull. Bulls may be purchased through the Livestock Evaluation Center's Bull Test Sale or Private Treaty from another Pennsylvania beef producer. Producers must complete an application and follow all program guidelines.

### 2024-2025 Program Requirements

- Bulls can be purchased via the Bull Test Sale at the Livestock Evaluation Center OR Private Treaty
- Applicant MUST be a Pennsylvania beef producer
- Bull purchased must be born and raised in Pennsylvania
- Bull must be no older than 2 years old
- Bull must be registered through a breed association (registration number will be required for grant reimbursement)
- Bull must be semen tested and pass a Breeding Soundness Exam (BSE)
- Minimum purchase price of \$3,500
- One \$1,500 credit per operation
- Producers are eligible for this grant program once every three (3) years if you have received BCP grant funding in the past
- If requesting PRE-APPROVAL for the Bull Test sale at the Livestock Evaluation Center, grants must be submitted between January 1 and March 21, 2025
- Other applications will be accepted in two rounds: Round 1 from September 15 to November 15, 2024 or Round 2 from January 1 to May 30, 2025
- Applications MUST be received by CBE by 5 pm on the last day of the grant round
- Preference will be given to BQA Certified producers. If you are not BQA Certified, information can be found at [www.pa-bqa.org/events](http://www.pa-bqa.org/events)

***For more information email [mkirk.cbe@gmail.com](mailto:mkirk.cbe@gmail.com) or call at 570-687-3150.***

## 2025 PA Angus Association Calendar

March 28:	PA Bull Test Sale - Pennsylvania Furnace, PA
April 25:	McKean Bros. PT Angus Sale - Mercer, PA
June 19-21:	PA Breeders Show - Huntingdon, PA
June 20:	PA Angus Assn Annual Meeting - Huntingdon, PA

# 2025 Pennsylvania Bull Test

## Angus Sale Bulls and Lot Numbers

Lot #	Farm Name	Bull Name	Reg. No.	DOB	Sire	CED	BW	IWW	YW	Milk	DOC	SCR	CWT	MRB	RE	Fat	\$C
1	Shipman Farms	Shipman 2402 Breakthru 2202	20888290	1/11/2024	Beal Breakthrough	9	1.8	84	144	24	18	1.07	73	1.38	1.27	0.008	352
2	Tuckaway Angus	Tuck Ares 5M	20979895	2/24/2024	PAR Ares 0615	10	2.1	108	189	19	22	0.88	93	1.66	1.47	-0.009	388
3	Shipman Farms	Shipman 2404 Breakthru 2210	20888291	1/14/2024	Beal Breakthrough	7	2.5	84	157	35	13	0.59	77	1.19	1.16	-0.026	335
4	Kohr Farms	KF Exponential M438 G930	21036765	3/19/2024	KCF Bennett Exponential	4	4.8	106	183	19	21	0.42	107	0.88	1.19	-0.012	343
5	Bullard Creek Cattle	Bullardcreek Gettysburg 2407	20909338	3/5/2024	EZAR Gettysburg 1061	8	2.7	94	172	30	23	0.98	98	1.18	1.62	0.041	362
6	Trinity Angus	Trinity Lincoln 423	21052372	4/11/2024	GAR Transcendent	14	-0.4	68	122	15	19	0.4	55	1.46	0.82	0.015	318
7	Beulah Land & Cattle	BLC Top Cut 467 Rueben 5282	20940351	1/11/2024	Yon Top Cut G730	4	4.5	96	157	17	29	0.85	64	1.66	0.92	-0.048	322
8	Tuckaway Angus	Tuck CrouchCongress 3M	20981678	1/31/2024	Crouch Congress	13	0.9	78	135	22	22	0.75	57	1.04	1.13	-0.084	316
9	Shipman Farms	Shipman 2415 EWAEnhance 2008	20932595	3/17/2024	EWA 0108 of 830 Enhance	10	0.2	74	140	29	25	1.23	69	1.04	0.8	0.05	331
10	Seefeldt Angus	Seefeldt Growth Fund 804	20975122	1/3/2024	Deer Valley Growth Fund	9	1.7	79	146	28	4	0.5	71	0.63	0.92	-0.009	271
11	HARRY J BLESSING	Blessing Hometown L120	21042816	3/19/2024	GAR Home Town	5	2.1	85	149	20	20	0.45	73	1.08	1.33	-0.033	334
12	Beulah Land & Cattle	BLC Elevate Parker 9896	20934564	2/16/2024	EWA Elevate 1166	12	1	71	120	28	31	1.37	55	1.41	0.93	-0.034	323
13	Trinity Angus	Trinity Leo 424	21051498	4/12/2024	Deer Valley Growth Fund	7	1.4	88	160	34	22	1.02	93	0.7	0.59	0.123	314
14	Kohr Farms	KF Statesman M411 G923	21036761	1/21/2024	Virginia Tech Statesman	13	-0.7	63	118	22	9	1.72	49	0.87	0.53	0.044	278
15	Alexis Cash	KF Cashman M412 H019	21036762	1/22/2024	Virginia Tech Statesman	13	-0.2	77	147	33	26	1.41	68	0.79	0.44	0.095	289
16	HARRY J BLESSING	Blessing Hometown L109	21042815	3/10/2024	GAR Home Town	11	0.5	59	111	31	1+19	1+59	1+47	1+1.47	1+5.2	1+0.10	304
17	Herr Angus Farm	HAF Craftsman 406	21027510	1/5/2024	Connealy Craftsman	6	1.3	71	125	32	13	0.56	50	0.65	1.02	-0.024	280
18	KLINE CATTLE	Kline Atlantis 309 415	21036105	2/10/2024	Square B Atlantis 8060	-8	3.9	79	134	35	9	1.11	69	0.36	0.9	0.023	229
19	Kohr Farms	KF Exponential M432 D635	21036763	3/4/2024	KCF Bennett Exponential	6	1.4	85	143	18	14	0.75	69	0.83	1.35	-0.069	303
20	Grant Cash	Cash Exponential M440 801U	21032379	3/27/2024	KCF Bennett Exponential	12	1.5	70	125	37	19	1	65	1.33	0.6	-0.001	311
21	Voight Family Farm	Voight Growth Fund 101J 402M	21051080	1/13/2024	Deer Valley Growth Fund	7	1.7	88	160	23	18	0.02	79	0.88	0.82	0.038	309
22	KERR CATTLE CO.	KCC Blitz 501 425	21056265	3/30/2024	Connealy Craftsman	7	-0.8	51	94	37	4	-0.21	20	0.63	0.23	0.019	221
23	AJK Ebony Acres	AAK Ebony Resource 407	20942757	3/12/2024	Ebony Resource 604-112	3	3.3	71	132	29	29	1.23	67	0.36	0.99	0.021	269
24	KERR CATTLE CO.	KCC Play Off 823 413	21055303	2/28/2024	KCF Bennett Exponential	16	-0.7	70	134	31	17	1.09	43	1.48	0.78	-0.012	307
25	SALANSKY ANGUS	PAS Theford 417	21055425	3/22/2024	Hoffman Theford	16	-1.3	73	125	36	26	1.24	48	0.76	0.75	0.032	283
26	HOMESTEAD FARMING	HF Safe a406	21024797	2/25/2024	HF Safe & Sound 019	5	2.5	69	120	21	9	0.21	49	0.56	0.73	0.003	235
27	HOMESTEAD FARMING	HF Optimum n419	21024847	4/6/2024	Deer Valley Optimum 9246	9	1.9	90	162	25	27	0.12	78	1.29	1.16	0.001	335
28	Bullard Creek Cattle	Bullardcreek Gettysburg 2406	20909340	3/3/2024	EZAR Gettysburg 1061	3	4.2	83	158	30	21	1.27	76	1.57	0.82	0.009	354
29	Voight Family Farm	Voight Growth Fund F826 404M	21051082	2/29/2024	Deer Valley Growth Fund	16	-2	78	149	25	22	2.16	65	0.73	0.72	0.044	261
30	Alexis Cash	Cash Statesman M416 B411	21032376	2/6/2024	Virginia Tech Statesman	8	0.3	80	139	24	5	0.12	55	1.53	0.49	0.067	307
31	Finger Lakes Cattle	FLCC 0061 Maximum M402	20971046	2/25/2024	Hoffman Theford	10	-0.2	71	129	38	20	0.49	66	0.81	0.7	0.005	309

Lot #	Farm Name	Bull Name	Reg. No.	DOB	Sire	CED	BW	WW	YW	Milk	DOC	SCR	CWT	MRB	RE	Fat	\$C
32	Mark W. Hahn	HAHN Charlo 2405	21050646	2/15/2024	Coleman Charlo 0256	2	2.5	70	125	34	13	1.05	40	0.65	0.55	0.033	228
33	SALANSKY ANGUS	PAS Kenny Rogers 406	20922750	3/14/2024	Kenny Rogers	9	-0.3	81	146	33	18	1.33	59	0.72	1.1	-0.037	260
34	AJK Ebony Acres	AJK Ebony Resource 417	21019947	4/11/2024	Ebony Resource 604-112	7	1.4	69	132	25	22	0.81	66	0.67	1.2	0.022	289
35	B-Bar Cattle Co.	B-BAR Outlaw 452	20928105	3/12/2024	Herr Angus Iconic 2203	10	1.3	78	131	22	28	0.67	68	0.89	0.8	0.051	326
36	Beulah Land & Cattle	BLC Weigh Up 9067 Alex 8084	20934566	3/1/2024	Plattmere Weigh Up K360	5	3	75	126	23	14	0.44	56	0.9	0.58	-0.044	275
37	A & L Angus	ANL Enhance Expo 4148	20928965	2/2/2024	KCF Bennett Expo K131	9	0.9	78	134	36	23	0.89	53	1.04	0.51	0.004	299
38	EK Angus	EK Wrangler 410	21019359	3/15/2024	S Wrangler 830	11	0.9	66	120	15	21	0.23	46	0.57	0.66	-0.015	254
39	Beulah Land & Cattle	BLC Elevate Evan 6686	20934565	2/15/2024	EWA Elevate 1166	8	0.8	77	127	33	15	0.71	65	0.83	1.12	-0.015	296
40	Beulah Land & Cattle	BLC Statesman Sebastian 6498	20934669	3/2/2024	Virginia Tech Statesman	12	0.4	70	131	22	13	1	62	1.41	0.66	0.1	314
41	Rains Angus	Rains Annuity ACSFm	21027561	2/11/2024	Car Don Annuity 114	4	1.9	81	142	31	18	1.27	58	0.42	0.73	0.042	239
42	Shipman Farms	Shipman 24 10 EWAEnhance 1708	20933995	2/2/2024	EWA 0108 of 830 Enhance	6	1.6	71	125	32	14	1.64	48	1.16	0.74	0.022	271
43	A & L Angus	ANL Expo Niagara 4026	20929007	2/15/2024	KCF Bennett Expo K131	10	-0.5	66	127	13	9	1.24	46	1.38	0.45	-0.016	296
44	Finger Lakes Cattle	FLCC 070R Match M405	20971049	3/1/2024	Connealy Craftsman	8	1.2	66	119	28	12	0.03	41	1.12	0.46	0.04	271
45	Rains Angus	Rains Redeemed ReABDM	21027564	2/26/2024	Musgrave Redemption	8	1.4	62	106	25	20	1.12	35	0.63	0.48	0.007	236
46	MM Farm	MMF Pathfinder M17 Playmate	21012145	3/19/2024	BAF Pathfinder K020	8	0.4	71	122	29	14	-0.21	55	0.5	0.45	0.049	246
47	SALANSKY ANGUS	PAS Kenny Rogers 416	20922887	3/23/2024	Kenny Rogers	14	-0.7	72	130	37	12	-0.03	44	0.84	0.74	-0.028	217
48	HOMESTEAD FARMING	HF Sound a407	21024796	2/26/2024	HF Safe & Sound 019	12	0.4	63	102	34	5	0.24	44	0.91	0.5	0.021	276
49	Watts Hill Farm	Watts Hill Morgan M439	20954590	3/20/2024	Watts Hill TC Prince K205	18	-1.1	74	132	21	25	1.43	45	0.96	0.82	-0.004	290
50	Herr Angus Farm	HAF Craftsman 427	21023013	2/24/2024	Connealy Craftsman	4	2	58	103	43	12	1.18	50	0.6	1.19	-0.023	298
51	Grant Cash	KF Cash Expo M422 F806	21036766	2/17/2024	KCF Bennett Exponential	6	0.8	71	119	22	24	0.31	62	1.06	1.16	0.021	306
52	A & L Angus	ANL Expo Fire 4016	20928986	2/13/2024	KCF Bennett Expo K131	9	-0.9	71	139	30	17	1.47	61	1.23	0.74	-0.002	319
53	Herr Angus Farm	HAF Fair N Square 414	21022937	2/11/2024	Myers Fair-N-Square M39	2	2.2	67	112	29	21	-0.28	59	0.76	1.06	-0.021	286
54	Flook's Homestead	FlookFHT3 707Cash	21039585	3/26/2024	KF Discovery E707 U816	10	-0.7	71	124	31	20	1	61	0.35	0.69	0.033	249
55	Tuckaway Angus	Tuck Crouch Congress 4M	20981679	2/2/2024	Crouch Congress	9	0.8	67	115	19	31	0.44	39	0.9	0.37	0.016	238
56	Seefeldt Angus	Seefeldt All In 874	21030205	1/7/2024	Deer Valley All In	5	1.9	66	119	27			45	0.7	0.6	0.021	228
57	KLIN KATTLE	Kline Nightwatch 729 404	21036104	3/15/2024	Coleman Night Watch 9259	17	-2.1	58	105	29	24	0.62	40	0.21	0.55	0.012	214
58	Mark W. Hahn	HAHN Magnify 2401	21048267	1/30/2024	SAV Magnify 1107	11	-0.2	73	132	32	24	0.05	56	0.63	0.57	0.002	243
59	Alexis Cash	Cash Exponential M417 K211	21032377	2/11/2024	KCF Bennett Exponential	3	3.1	85	137	21	28	1.02	44	0.97	0.88	-0.079	259
60	HOMESTEAD FARMING	HF Niagara o421	21024813	4/12/2024	SS Niagara Z29	8	-0.7	68	127	20	19	1.04	52	0.83	0.53	0.08	246
61	SALANSKY ANGUS	PAS Fair-N-Square 405	20922920	3/2/2024	Myers Fair-N-Square M39	8	0.8	68	121	28	30	0	38	0.6	0.26	0.026	216

The sale book is available to view on the American Angus Association website.

# Why Wasn't the Data Included in the Genetic Evaluation?

*There are a variety of reasons that can keep data from entering the genetic evaluation. The most common reasons are below.*

By Esther Tarpoff, Director of Performance Programs, American Angus Association

Since 2021, phenotypic traits have been listed on EPD (expected progeny difference)/Pedigree Lookup, indicating what phenotypes have been submitted to the Association for the individual animal (Figure 1).

In 2024 the phenotypic traits were updated to indicate which phenotypes are being used in the genetic evaluation to help predict the EPDs by bolding those that are included. Why would data not be included in the genetic evaluation?

**FIG. 1: Example of phenotypic traits listed on EPD/Pedigree Lookup.**

**Phenotypic traits: CE, BW, WW, YW, YH, HP, MW, MH, Doc, Claw, Angle, UScanWT, UIMF, URE, URibFat, URumpFat**  
**Bold Phenotypes** are included in the National Cattle Evaluation.

## **Contemporary group**

Regardless of the trait, a common reason data is excluded from the genetic evaluation is because of contemporary group size. If an animal is in a single-animal contemporary group, there are no other animals to compare it to, so information is unable to be included in the genetic evaluation. For most traits, a minimum of two animals is needed in a contemporary group to be eligible. For more information on contemporary groups guidelines and structure, visit [www.angus.org/ahir/how-to-collect/contemporary-grouping](http://www.angus.org/ahir/how-to-collect/contemporary-grouping).

While there are instances where an animal should be in a contemporary group alone — such as an orphan, illness, managed differently than other animals in the herd (e.g., a show calf) — sometimes animals are in a single-animal group because of when or how the record was submitted or because of incorrect group codes being used.

Process date, meaning if data is submitted over multiple days for the same group, is a key reason why contemporary groups are unintentionally divided for several traits like birth, weaning, and yearling. Contemporary groups build from birth, so if an animal is in a single contemporary group at birth, it will remain in a single-animal group as data for other traits is collected.

## **Data guidelines**

Phenotypes collected on animals outside of the eligible age window are not eligible to be included in the genetic evaluation. For example, if weaning weight is collected on an animal at 295 days of age, the weaning weight will not be used in the genetic evaluation. The acceptable age window for collecting weaning weights is 120-280 days of age.

Another example would be if a mature weight on a cow is submitted but there is no body condition score with the mature weight, the mature weight will not be included in the genetic evaluation. Both traits, mature weight and body condition score, are required to use the weight in the genetic evaluation. In addition, the weight and body condition score must be collected either 45 days prior to or 45 days after weaning a calf, and the calf's weaning information must also be reported.

## **Embryo transfer calves**

Phenotypes from calves that are produced using embryo transfer (ET) can vary slightly based on how the embryos were produced and recipient registration status. Conventional ET calves raised by a registered recipient can have their

**Continued on Page 9**



birth and weaning weights included in the National Cattle Evaluation (NCE). Any IVF (in vitro fertilization) ET calf regardless of recipient and conventional ET calves from commercial recipients do not have their birth and weaning weights included in the NCE. The reason is because both birth and weaning weights have a maternal component; without having information about the recipient dam, the maternal components cannot be accounted for in the model. ET calves as a result of IVF, regardless of recipient, are not included because of large offspring syndrome that cannot be accounted for today.

### **Variation**

For traits that are scored such as foot scores, hair shed scores, docility scores, etc., if there is no variation in the contemporary group, the data is not included in the genetic evaluation. In order to make comparisons between animals, there needs to be variation in the scores.

There are a variety of other reasons data might not be included in the genetic evaluation, depending on the trait. Sometimes when the traits are not bolded on EPD/Pedigree Lookup, it is simply a result of a timing issue. If data is submitted but has not had the opportunity to be included in the genetic evaluation, it will remain not bolded. The genetic evaluation starts each Friday, and the results are released the following Friday. If data is submitted on Tuesday, it would have the opportunity to be included in the genetic evaluation starting on Friday, and traits would have the opportunity to be bolded the following Friday when the results are released.

All data submitted to the Angus Herd Improvement Records (AHIR®) program is stored and available for your reference in your AAA Login account. While not all records in AHIR are able to be used in the genetic evaluation because of reasons such as those listed above, you can make sure you are making the most of your records by following the data collection guidelines from the Association.



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**Contact with further questions:**

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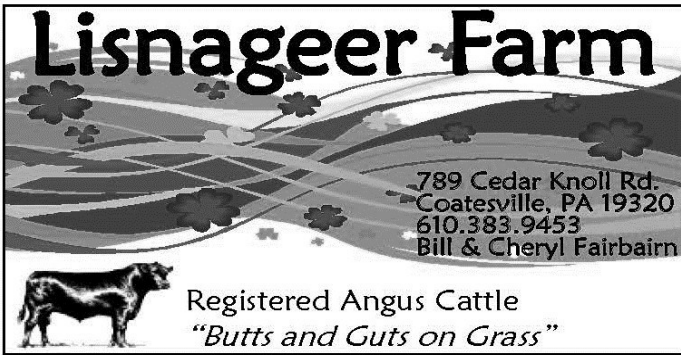
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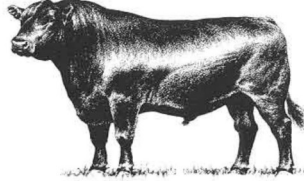
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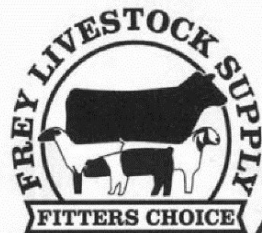
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